

## Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A visitor pass system for managing visitor's entry and departure through a communication network, comprising:
  - a visit data storing means for storing visit data of a visitor;
  - an input and output means for entering appointment data and transmitting the appointment data to the visit data storing means through the communication network to store the data therein;
  - an identification data reading means for reading identification data from identification means of the visitor;
  - a visitor identifying means for identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing visitor's data; and,
  - a visitor's data transmitting means for transmitting the visitor's data to the visit data storing means through the communication network to store the visitor's data therein.

1 2. A visitor pass system for managing visitor's entry and departure through a  
2 communication network, comprising:  
3 a visit data storing means for storing visit data of a visitor;  
4 an input and output means for entering appointment data and transmitting the  
5 appointment data to the visit data storing means through the communication network  
6 to store the data therein;  
7 an identification data reading means for reading identification data from  
8 identification means of the visitor;  
9 a visitor identifying means for identifying the visitor on the basis of the  
10 identification data and preparing visitor's data;  
11 an appointment data retrieving means for retrieving appointment data related to  
12 the visitor's data from the visit data storing means through the communication  
13 network; and,  
14 an arrival notification data transmitting means for transmitting data to notify the  
15 visitor's arrival to the input and output means through the communication network.

1 3. A visitor pass system for managing visitor's entry and departure through a  
2 communication network, comprising:  
3 a visit data storing means for storing visit data of a visitor;  
4 an input and output means for entering appointment data and transmitting the  
5 appointment data to the visit data storing means through the communication network  
6 to store the data therein;  
7 an identification data reading means for reading identification data from  
8 identification means of the visitor;  
9 a visitor identifying means for identifying the visitor on the basis of the  
10 identification data and preparing visitor's data;  
11 appointment data retrieving means for retrieving appointment data related to  
12 the visitor's data from the visit data storing means through the communication  
13 network; and,  
14 a permit data output means for outputting permit data when the appointment  
15 data related to the visitor's data is found.

1 4. The visitor pass system according to claim 1, further comprising:  
2 appointment data retrieving means for retrieving appointment data related to  
3 the visitor's data from the visit data storing means through the communication  
4 network; and, arrival notification data transmitting means for transmitting data to  
5 notify the visitor's arrival to the input and output means through the communication  
6 network.

1 5. The visitor pass system according to claim 2, further comprising:  
2 permit data output means for outputting permit data when the appointment  
3 data related to the visitor's data is found.

1 6. The visitor pass system according to claim 3, wherein said identification data  
2 reading means includes first and second identification data reading means.

1 7. The visitor pass system according to claim 6, wherein said identification means  
2 includes a business card and at least said second identification data reading means  
3 includes a business card reader for reading characters provided on a visitor's business  
4 card as the identification data.

1 8. The visitor pass system according to claim 7, wherein said identification means  
2 includes a bar code and at least said first identification data reading means includes a  
3 bar code reader.

1 9. The visitor pass system according to claim 8, wherein said bar code is provided  
2 on a staff's business card of the visitor.

1 10. The visitor pass system according to claim 8, wherein said visitor identifying  
2 means includes number entering means and said appointment data retrieving means  
3 retrieves appointment data related to the number entered into the number entering  
4 means when there is no appointment data related to visitor's data prepared on the basis  
5 of a bar code read by the bar code reader.

1 11. The visitor pass system according to claim 9, wherein said visitor identifying  
2 means includes number entering means and said appointment data retrieving means  
3 retrieves appointment data related to the number entered into the number entering  
4 means when there is no appointment data related to visitor's data prepared on the basis  
5 of a bar code read by the bar code reader.

1 12. The visitor pass system according to claim 6, further comprising permit data  
2 output controlling means for allowing the permit data output means to output permit  
3 data when there is appointment data related to visitor's data prepared on the basis of  
4 identification data read by the second identification data reading means.

1 13. The visitor pass system according to claim 2, wherein said arrival notification  
2 data transmitting means transmits arrival notification data to the input and output  
3 means through the communication network when the appointment data related to the  
4 visitor's data is found.

1 14. The visitor pass system according to claim 4, wherein said arrival notification  
2 data transmitting means transmits arrival notification data to the input and output  
3 means through the communication network when the appointment data related to the  
4 visitor's data is found.

1 15. The visitor pass system according to claim 3, wherein said permit data is entry  
2 permit data or departure permit data.

1 16. The visitor pass system according to claim 5, wherein said permit data is entry  
2 permit data or departure permit data.

1 17. The visitor pass system according to claim 3, wherein said system is capable of  
2 providing an instruction to transmit the permit data from the input and output means  
3 to the permit data output means through the communication network.

1 18. The visitor pass system according to claim 5, wherein said system is capable of  
2 providing an instruction to transmit the permit data from the input and output means  
3 to the permit data output means through the communication network.

1 19. The visitor pass system according to claim 3, wherein said permit data is  
2 provided on a card.

1 20. The visitor pass system according to claim 5, wherein said permit data is  
2 provided on a card.

1 21. The visitor pass system according to claim 19, further comprising means for  
2 unlocking or opening a gate by recognizing the permit data provided on the card.

1 22. A visitor pass method for managing visitor's entry and departure through a  
2 communication network, comprising the steps of:

3 (a) transmitting appointment data to the visit data storing means through the  
4 communication network to store the data therein, said appointment data entered into  
5 input and output means by a staff;

6 (b) reading identification data from identification means of a visitor by  
7 identification data reading means;

8 (c) identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing  
9 visitor's data by visitor identifying means; and

10 (d) transmitting the visitor's data to visit data storing means through the  
11 communication network by visitor's data transmitting means to store the data therein.



1     23.     A visitor pass method for managing visitor's entry and departure through a  
2     communication network, comprising the steps of:

3             (a) transmitting appointment data to the visit data storing means through the  
4     communication network to store the data therein, said appointment data entered into  
5     input and output means by a staff;

6             (b) reading identification data from identification means of a visitor by  
7     identification data reading means;

8             (c) identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing  
9     visitor's data by visitor identifying means;

10            (d) retrieving appointment data related to the visitor's data from the visit data  
11     storing means through the communication network by appointment data retrieving  
12     means; and

13            (e) transmitting data to notify the visitor's arrival to the input and output means  
14     through the communication network by arrival notification data transmitting means.

1 24. A visitor pass method for managing visitor's entry and departure through a  
2 communication network, comprising the steps of:

3 (a) transmitting appointment data to the visit data storing means through the  
4 communication network to store the data therein, said appointment data entered into  
5 input and output means by a staff;

6 (b) reading identification data from identification means of a visitor by  
7 identification data reading means;

8 (c) identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing  
9 visitor's data by visitor identifying means;

10 (d) retrieving appointment data related to the visitor's data from the visit data  
11 storing means through the communication network by appointment data retrieving  
12 means; and,

13 (e) outputting permit data by permit data output means when the appointment  
14 data related to the visitor's data is found.

1 25. A visitor pass program for managing visitor's entry and departure through a  
2 communication network, comprising instructions for causing a computer to perform  
3 the steps of:  
4 reading identification data from identification means of a visitor;  
5 identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing visitor's  
6 data; and  
7 transmitting the visitor's data to visit data storing means for storing visitor's visit  
8 data through the communication network to store the data therein.

1 26. A visitor pass program for managing visitor's entry and departure through a  
2 communication network, comprising instructions for causing a computer to perform  
3 the steps of:  
4 transmitting appointment data entered by a staff to visit data storing means for  
5 storing visitor's visit data through the communication network to store the data therein;  
6 reading identification data from identification means of a visitor;  
7 identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing  
8 visitor's data;  
9 retrieving appointment data related to the visitor's data from the visit data  
10 storing means through the communication network; and  
11 transmitting data to notify the visitor's arrival to the input and output means through  
12 the communication network.

1 27. A visitor pass program for managing visitor's entry and departure through a  
2 communication network, comprising instructions for causing a computer to perform  
3 the steps of:  
4 transmitting appointment data entered by a staff to visit data storing means for  
5 storing visitor's visit data through the communication network to store the data therein;  
6 reading identification data from identification means of a visitor;  
7 identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and prepare visitor's  
8 data;  
9 retrieving appointment data related to the visitor's data from the visit data  
10 storing means through the communication network; and  
11 outputting permit data when the appointment data related to the visitor's data is  
12 found.